

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The claims have been amended by canceling claims 5 and 13, amending claims 1,2, 14 and 21, claims 3-4, 6-10, 12, 15-20, 22-23 are unchanged. Claims 1-4, 6-10, 12, 14-23 remain in the application.

R E M A R K SClaim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a):

Claims 1-10, 12-17, & 19-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee (U.S. 2003/0042587) in view of He et al. (US 6,462,365).

The invention as now claimed by applicant in base claim 1 includes the limitation (previously recited in cancelled claim 13) of "wherein in plan view the sensor element is directly aligned with at least part of the programmable module". This limitation assists in device miniaturization and connectivity simplification. In the teachings of Lee combined with the teachings of He et al. there is described an optoelectronic device 701 (CCD) in a stacked relationship with the chip 102 that can be a FPGA with a large number of configurable logical blocks. Nowhere in the teachings of Lee when combined with He et al. is there any description of a sensor element directly aligned with at least part of the programmable module. What is shown in teachings of Lee when combined with He et al. is the optoelectronic device 701 that comprises an array of sensor elements, this device is in a stacked relationship that is directly aligned with a FPGA comprising programmable modules. However, none of the Figs or text in these citations implicitly or explicitly refers to alignment of the sensor element with the

programmable module. It is therefore submitted that amended claim 1 now on file is patentable over Lee in view of He et al.

Regarding the rejection of claims 2-10, 12-17, and 19-23, claim 13 has been cancelled and the limitation recited in this claim has been included in amended claim 1. Claim, 5 has also been canceled. Furthermore, it is submitted that since applicant believes that amended claim 1 is patentable over Lee in view of He et al, then dependent claims 2-5, 6-10, 12, 14-17, and 19-20 should also be considered patentable over Lee in view of He et al. Furthermore, nowhere in the combined teachings of Lee and He et al. is there mentioned: "in plan view the sensor element is in direct alignment with the programmable module" as recited in claim 14; "wherein the sensor element is directly aligned with at least part of the analogue module" as recited in claim 15; or "wherein in plan view the sensor element is in direct alignment with the analogue module" as recited in claim 16.

Regarding the rejection of claim 21, this claim has been re-written and includes the limitation of "wherein in plan view the sensor element is directly aligned with at least part of the programmable module". Hence, for the same reasons given regarding claim 1, it is submitted that claim 21 is patentable over Lee in view of He et al. Also, since the applicant believes that amended claim 21 is patentable over Lee in view of He et al, then dependent claims 22-23 should also be considered patentable.

Claims 1-3, 7, 12, 18 & 21-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stam et al (U.S. 5,837,994) in view of He et al. (US 6,462,365) .

The examiner does not refer to claims 13-17 as being unpatentable by combining Stam et al. with He et al. It must therefore be concluded that the examiner is of the opinion that Stam et al. combined with He et al. does not result in limitation of cancelled claim 13. This limitation is now included in amended claim 1, namely, "wherein in plan view the sensor element is directly aligned with at least part of the programmable module". This limitation is also recited in amended claim 21. It is therefore submitted that amended claims 1 and 21 and all their depending claims are patentable over Stam et al in view of He et al.

In view of the above, this application is believed to be in proper form for allowance and an early notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, this application is believed to be in proper form for allowance and an early notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

Please charge any fees associated herewith, including extension of time fees, to 502117.

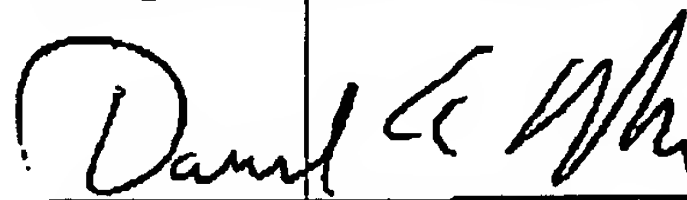
Respectfully submitted,

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